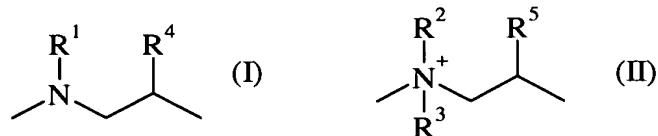


We claim:-

1. A process for the preparation of aqueous solutions of epichlorohydrinamine polymers, comprising the following process steps:
 - (a) Reaction of at least two different amines with at least one epichlorohydrin derivative as an alkylating agent in water over a period which is sufficient for free alkylating agents to be no longer detectable, a reaction mixture (I) resulting;
 - (b) if appropriate, cooling of the reaction mixture (I) resulting from process step (a);
 - (c) addition of at least one acid and, if appropriate, water to this reaction mixture (I) until the pH of the reaction mixture (I) is from 4 to 10, a reaction mixture (II) resulting, and
 - (d) if appropriate, reaction of the reaction mixture (II) with a cationizing agent.
2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least two different amines are selected from the group consisting of benzylamine, bis-2-aminoethyl ether, N,N-dimethylethylenediamine, piperazine, ethylenediamine, dimethylaminopropylamine, methylbis(3-aminopropyl)amine, methylbis(2-aminoethyl)amine, N-(2-aminoethyl)piperazine, diethylenetriamine, dipropylenetriamine, triethylenetetraamine, 4,7-dimethyltriethylenetetraamine, tetraethylenepentaamine.
- 25 3. A process as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the at least one epichlorohydrin derivative is selected from the group consisting of α -epichlorohydrin, bisepoxides, bischlorohydroxy compounds and phosgene.
4. A process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the ratio of amines to epichlorohydrin derivative or derivatives is from 0.8 : 1.2 to 1.2 : 0.8.
- 30 5. A process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the reaction in process step (a) is effected at from 40 to 100°C.
- 35 6. An epichlorohydrinamine polymer obtainable by a process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5.

7. An epichlorohydrinamine polymer as claimed in claim 6, wherein the polymer has at least two general structural units (I) and (II)



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where R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^5 have the following meanings:

R^1 and R^2 : $-(CH_2)_3N(CH_3)_2$, $-CH_2C_6H_5$, $-(CH_2)_2NH_2$, $-(CH_2)_2OH$,
 $-(CH_2)_2NH$ $(CH_2)_2NH_2$

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R^3 : H, alkyl

R^4 and R^5 : H or OH.

15 8. An epichlorohydrinamine polymer as claimed in claim 6 or 7, wherein the amine and/or ammonium units are derived from dimethylaminopropylamine and benzylamine, the amine and/or ammonium units being composed of from 0.5 to 0.8 part of dimethylaminopropylamine and from 0.2 to 0.5 part of benzylamine.

20 9. An epichlorohydrinamine polymer as claimed in any of claims 6 to 8, wherein the polymer has a weight average molecular weight of from $1 \cdot 10^2$ to $2 \cdot 10^5$ g/mol.

10. The use of an epichlorohydrinamine polymer as claimed in any of claims 6 to 9 for the surface treatment of semifinished leather products.

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